

Juvenile Council Meeting Minutes

**September 8, 2014
12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**Charles H. Hickey School
TMA Building- East Campus
9700 Old Harford Rd
Parkville, MD 21234**

Participating Members:

Lynn Davis
Lisa Garry
Maceo Hallmon (phone)
Musa Hammett
Lynette Holmes for Secretary Abed
Michelle Becote-Jackson
Leon Lockett
John McGinnis
Adia Moore
Erica Rosen
David Thompson

Guests:

Reginald Garnett, Department of Juvenile Services
Nick Moroney, Juvenile Justice Monitoring Unit at the Office of the Attorney General

Staff:

Jessica Wheeler, Director of Juvenile Justice
Justice Schisler, Eastern Region Chief
Bill Harper, Juvenile Justice Compliance Monitor
Shanelle Johnson, State DMC Coordinator
Juliana Ofori, Juvenile Justice Policy Unit Intern

I. Welcome, Opening, and Chair's Remarks

The meeting was called to order at 12:35 p.m. and began with a tour of the Charles H. Hickey School. After the tour, Mr. Rivlin delivered brief remarks on the Council's progress in 2013 such as the adoption of by-laws, creation of subcommittees (especially an active youth subcommittee) and inclusion of local DMC coordinators on the DMC subcommittee. Mr. Rivlin emphasized that 2014-2015 will require more commitment on behalf of Council members than

ever before to sustain the energy and work that has begun. Mr. Rivlin thanked members for their continued support of the Council's goals.

II. Approval of Minutes

There was not a quorum for the meeting. The minutes will be approved at the next meeting provided there is a quorum.

III. Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Update

As requested by Council members during the May meeting, Reginald Garnett, Executive Director of Residential Operations and PREA Coordinator at the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) provided members with an update on DJS' PREA progress. Mr. Garnett informed members that DJS has been preparing for the PREA regulations since 2010 before they were officially released in 2012. Unlike the adult system, DJS staff are mandated reporters, therefore, several of the regulations surrounding reporting were already in DJS policies and procedures.

The Department is working to achieve the required staffing ratio's which are 1:8; they are currently 1:10 in some facilities. The staffing ratio requirements do not go in effect until 2017. The Department has received 24 additional positions and is advocating for more positions to reduce the current staffing deficit.

The Department has upgraded all cameras to HD in the facilities. This allows for constant surveillance and monitoring when staff do not physically see an incident. Additionally, DJS has installed new phones in all of the facilities which connect youth with the PREA 24-hour live hotline (contracted through 211). To date, there have been two calls placed on the hotline but neither were PREA-related.

DJS is in the process of procuring auditors and has a scheduled pre-bid meeting on September 9, 2014. One-third of the facilities must be audited each year before August 31. Due to a delay in training auditors by the Department of Justice, there will be 7 audits (50% of facilities) conducted in 2014-2015 to meet the requirement.

IV. Subcommittee Updates

a. Grant Monitoring

Ms. Davis provided members with an update on the Grant Monitoring subcommittee which met on August 25, 2014. The meeting involved a budget discussion surrounding the elimination of Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2014 JABG funding (which totaled \$303,408 in FFY 2013) and the increase in Title II (JJAC) funding in FFY 2014 from \$477,147 in FY 2013 to \$661,231 in FFY 2014. The State received a 5% PREA penalty reduction, so the total allocation for Title II in FFY 2014 is \$650,661. GOCCP receives state juvenile funding (Juvenile State Match Requirement or JSMR) in the amount of \$305,334 annually and consolidates those funds to support JABG and JJAC grants. In summary, with the

elimination of JABG funding and the increase in Title II JJAC funding in FFY 2014, overall juvenile justice funding available has decreased by \$130,026 over FFY 2013.

The subcommittee presented several recommendations for the Council's consideration:

- Release one NOFA to include Title II and JSMR funding
- Expand the funding purpose areas
- Provide a waiver option for cash match for those that demonstrate a need
- Continue to cap funding (currently set at \$20,000)

Ms. Becote-Jackson asked if there is a cap on administrative costs. Ms. Wheeler explained that GOCCP is allocated 10% of the total federal award for administrative costs. Administrative costs are not allowable costs for the sub-recipients.

The subcommittee's next meeting is scheduled for September 30, 2014 from 1-3 p.m. at GOCCP. Since there was not a quorum, no vote was taken on the recommendations. The vote will be tabled until the next meeting.

b. Youth Engagement

Mr. Lockett provided members with an update on the Youth Engagement subcommittee. The subcommittee met in July and has a meeting scheduled for September 11, 2014. The subcommittee is working to develop goals and objectives and is holding elections at the next meeting for leadership positions on the subcommittee.

The subcommittee recommends that the Council vote to increase the youth stipend for meeting attendance from \$15 per meeting to \$25. The members feel that this will provide an incentive for youth involvement. Since there was not a quorum, no vote was taken on the recommendation. The vote will be tabled until the next meeting.

c. Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC)

The subcommittee met on August 13, 2014 and continued to formulate goals for the DMC plan based on the SWOT analysis. Members also discussed other topics that were not included in previous meetings such as the new marijuana decriminalization legislation and the lack of resources for public defenders representing juvenile clients. Due to low meeting attendance, several meeting objectives were not met, however, members did complete a SMART (Specific-Measurable-Assignable-Realistic-Time-Related) goals analysis on one of the goals regarding the collection of ethnicity data.

Mr. Rivlin asked that the subcommittee begin to discuss the upcoming 25% budget reductions to the existing DMC grants. Ms. Johnson advised that GOCCP is scheduling meetings with the local DMC Coordinators and the agency leaders to discuss the upcoming funding reductions and assist with developing sustainability plans. Mr. Rivlin asked that members of the subcommittee be included in these meetings.

Ms. Johnson asked that members communicate with her when they are unavailable for meeting dates so that meetings can be re-scheduled, if needed, due to low attendance. There is an option on the doodle polls to indicate that you are unavailable for all of the suggested dates.

d. Recruitment, Training, and Regionalization

A new member orientation/training was held on September 4, 2014 and was attended by several new and experienced members. An information packet was disseminated to participants. Presentations were provided by GOCCP Staff (Bill Harper, Shanelle Johnson, and Jessica Wheeler) as well as DJS (Lisa Garry). Orientation and training has been a focus of this subcommittee and the members agreed that this was a success.

V. Compliance Monitoring Updates

Mr. Harper conducted a compliance monitoring site visit at the new Baltimore City curfew centers in August. The purpose of these visits was to ensure that the facilities are properly classified in the compliance monitoring universe as non-secure. Mr. Harper provided a comprehensive report to members which concluded that the facilities are indeed non-secure. They will be required to submit an annual survey to Mr. Harper verifying their non-secure status.

VI. State DMC Coordinator Updates

Ms. Johnson attended two local DMC Committee meetings (Montgomery and Baltimore City) since the last Council meeting. Both committees are developing goals for the upcoming year. Montgomery County is closely monitoring the new school discipline guidelines that went in to effect at the beginning of the school year. Baltimore City is working closely with the police department and school system to develop a training module for youth on the new marijuana decriminalization legislation to ensure that the youth understand there are still penalties for marijuana consumption and distribution.

Mr. Hallmon inquired about the FY 15 goals for DMC. Ms. Garry reiterated that the DMC subcommittee is in the process of developing those goals and they will be presented to the full Council upon completion. Mr. Rivlin encouraged Mr. Hallmon to participate in the DMC subcommittee so that he can assist with developing the state DMC plan.

VII. Juvenile Justice Specialist Updates

GOCCP recently convened a conference call with the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Administrator Bob Listenbee regarding the new guidance on Sight and Sound Separation and Jail Removal. The call participants included:

- **Maryland Participants:**
 - Tammy Brown, GOCCP Executive Director
 - Ed Parker, GOCCP Deputy Director
 - Karl Pothier, Assistant Attorney General

- Justice Schisler, Eastern Region Chief
 - Jessica Wheeler, Director of Juvenile Justice/JJ Specialist
 - Bill Harper, Compliance Monitor
 - Shanelle Johnson, State DMC Coordinator
 - Keith Warner, SAG Vice Chair
 - Captain Andre Davis, Baltimore County Police Department
- **OJJDP Participants:**
 - Robert Listenbee, OJJDP Administrator
 - Shanetta Cutlar, OJJDP Chief of Staff
 - Gregory Thompson
 - Cheryl Jones
 - Nancy Ayres

Mr. Listenbee clarified that the new guidance does not pertain to Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders. He also stated that the guidance does not apply to non-residential court holding facilities, juvenile-only facilities, or shelter care facilities. GOCCP asked if stadiums are applicable and Mr. Listenbee responded that they would be included if there is a secure lock-up within the stadium. Mr. Listenbee is going to get back to GOCCP around the issue of malls and retail establishments being included in the guidance.

Maryland posed several scenarios to Mr. Listenbee in order to gain insight into the new guidance. One of the concerns posed was when a youth may be intoxicated and law enforcement officers are required to release the youth from the facility after 6 hours. If the parents have not arrived yet, this not only endangers the youth but also puts law enforcement in a difficult situation to release the youth to the public. Mr. Listenbee listened to the concerns posed and stated that OJJDP will issue responses to the questions and concerns soon. Ms. Wheeler will keep members informed as new information is released.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Meeting Follow-Up:

- Minutes for vote at next meeting
- Members to review Grant Monitoring subcommittee recommendations and vote at next meeting.
- Members to review Youth subcommittee recommendation and vote at next meeting.

NEXT MEETING:
Monday, November 10, 2014
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Location: TBA